AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-33 are pending in the instant application, of which claims 31-33 are new claims. Claims 1-3, 8-13, 18-23 and 28-30 have been amended to clarify the claim language. Claims 2-10, 31, 12-20, 32 and 22-30, 33 depend directly or indirectly from independent claims 1, 11 and 21, respectively. The Applicant requests reconsideration of the claims in view of the following remarks.

Listing of claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for communicating information in a server, the method comprising:

receiving at a common switch, at least one packet from a first blade server of a plurality of blade servers, wherein said at least one packet is designated for at least a second blade server of said plurality of blade servers, and wherein said first blade server and said at least a second blade server are coupled to said common switch via a common bus;

determining at least a first identifier identifying said common switch, a second identifier identifying said first blade server, and at least a third identifier identifying said second blade server, wherein said first, second and third identifiers are located within a header portion of said received at least one packet; ~~and~~

modifying said at least one packet from said first blade server by changing said first identifier within said header portion; and

routing via said common switch, at least a portion of said modified at least one received packet from said first blade server to at least said second blade server, based on said ~~determined first, second and third identifiers from said~~ header portion of said modified at least one received packet.

2. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, comprising transferring said header portion of said modified at least one received packet to said at least said second blade server via said common switch.

3. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said common switch comprises a switch blade coupled to said common bus, and wherein said switch blade controls said routing of said header portion of said modified at least one received packet.

4. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein said common bus comprises a common backplane.

5. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein said common switch comprises a bus transceiver and a bus controller.

6. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein each of said first, second, and third identifiers comprises one or both of a MAC address and/or an IP address.

7. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, comprising:

acquiring said second identifier of said first blade server; and

transferring via said common switch, said acquired second identifier of said first blade server to at least said second blade server.

8. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, comprising broadcasting said header portion of said modified at least one received packet via said common switch.

9. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, comprising receiving a broadcast containing said modified at least one received packet.

10. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, comprising receiving at least one packet from said second blade server and transferring via said common switch, said header portion of said modified at least one packet received from said second blade server to at least one of said first blade server and a third blade server.

11. (Currently Amended) A machine-readable storage having stored thereon, a computer program having at least one code section for communicating information in a server, the at least one code section being executable by a machine for causing the machine to perform steps comprising:

receiving at a common switch, at least one packet from a first blade server of a plurality of blade servers, wherein said at least one packet is designated for at least a second blade server of said plurality of blade servers, and wherein said first blade server and said at least a second blade server are coupled to said common switch via a common bus;

determining at least a first identifier identifying said common switch, a second identifier identifying said first blade server, and at least a third identifier identifying said second blade server, wherein said first, second and third identifiers are located within a header portion of said received at least one packet; ~~and~~

modifying said at least one packet from said first blade server by changing said first identifier within said header portion; and

routing via said common switch, at least a portion of said modified at least one received packet from said first blade server to at least said second blade server, based on said ~~determined first, second and third identifiers from said~~ header portion of said modified at least one received packet.

12. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable storage according to claim 11, comprising code for transferring said header portion of said modified at least one received packet to said at least said second blade server via said common switch.

13. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable storage according to claim 11, wherein said common switch comprises a switch blade coupled to said common bus, and wherein said machine-readable storage comprises code for controlling said routing of said header portion of said modified received packet by said switch blade coupled to said common bus.

14. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage according to claim 11, wherein said common bus comprises a backplane.

15. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage according to claim 11, wherein said common switch comprises a bus transceiver and a bus controller.

16. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage according to claim 11, wherein each of said first, second, and third identifiers comprises one or both of a MAC address and/or an IP address.

17. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage according to claim

11, comprising:

code for acquiring said second identifier of said first blade server; and

transferring via said common switch, said acquired second identifier of said first blade server to at least said second blade server.

18. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable storage according to claim 11, comprising code for broadcasting said header portion of said modified at least one received packet via said common switch.

19. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable storage according to claim 11, comprising code for receiving a broadcast containing said modified at least one received packet.

20. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable storage according to claim 11, comprising code for receiving at least one packet from said second blade server and transferring via said common switch, said header portion of said modified at least one packet received from said second blade server to at least one of said first blade server and a third blade server.

21. (Currently Amended) A system for communicating information in a server, the system comprising:

at least one processor that receives at a common switch, at least one packet from a first blade server of a plurality of blade servers, wherein said at least one packet is designated for at least a second blade server of said plurality of blade servers, and wherein said first blade server and said at least a second blade server are coupled to said common switch via a common bus;

said at least one processor determines at least a first identifier identifying said common switch, a second identifier identifying said first blade server, and at least a third identifier identifying said second blade server, wherein said first, second and third identifiers are located within a header portion of said received at least one packet; ~~and~~

said at least one processor modifies said at least one packet from said first blade server by changing said first identifier within said header portion; and

said at least one processor routes via said common switch, at least a portion of said modified at least one received packet from said first blade server to at least said second blade server, based on said ~~determined first, second and third identifiers from said~~ header portion of said modified at least one received packet.

22. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 21, wherein said at least one processor transfers said header portion of said modified at least one received packet to said at least said second blade server via said common switch.

23. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 21, wherein said

common switch comprises a switch blade coupled to said common bus, and wherein said at least one processor controls said routing of said header portion of said modified received packet by said switch blade coupled to said common bus.

24. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 21, wherein said common bus comprises a backplane.

25. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 21, wherein said common switch comprises a bus transceiver and a bus controller.

26. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 21, wherein each of said first, second, and third identifiers comprises one or both of a MAC address and/or an IP address.

27. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 21, wherein said at least one processor:

acquires said second identifier of said first blade server; and

transferring via said common switch, said acquired second identifier of said first blade server to at least said second blade server.

28. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 21, wherein said at

least one processor broadcasts said header portion of said modified at least one received packet via said common switch.

29. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 21, wherein said at least one processor receives a broadcast containing said modified at least one received packet.

30. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 21, wherein said at least one processor receives at least one packet from said second blade server and transfers via said common switch, said header portion of said modified at least one packet received from said second blade server to at least one of said first blade server and a third blade server.

31. (New) The method according to claim 1, comprises overwriting said header portion, said first identifier with said third identifier located within said modified at least one packet, by said common switch.

32. (New) The machine-readable storage according to claim 11, comprises overwriting said header portion, said first identifier with said third identifier located within said modified at least one packet, by said common switch.

33. (New) The system according to claim 21, wherein said at least one

processor overwrites said header portion, said first identifier with said third identifier located within said modified at least one packet, by said common switch.